

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

How 1922 Appropriations Are to Be Made



WASHINGTON—Budget legislation, which failed in the last session owing to the president's veto, will probably be enacted in the next session. A year has been lost, however, and the budget system cannot apply to the appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1921.

In the meantime a new system of making appropriations will be tried, owing to a change in the rules of the house, which was put through in the closing days of the recent session as supplemental to budget legislation. This change will center in the hands of a single committee the work of pre-

paring appropriation bills heretofore handled by seven different committees. Under the new system the appropriations committee of the house will be made up of thirty-five members. There have been twenty-one members of the committee heretofore. In the past the appropriations committee has handled such annual supply measure as the legislative, executive and judicial bills, the sundry civil bills and the various deficiency bills.

The six other committees whose power in handling appropriations have been transferred to the appropriations committee are those on military affairs, naval affairs, agriculture, foreign affairs, post office and Indian affairs. These committees will henceforth handle general legislation relative to their various fields, but will lose their power over fiscal matters.

The change in rules does not affect the committee on rivers and harbors which will continue the preparation of the annual rivers and harbor appropriations bill, or the committee on public buildings and grounds, which will handle public buildings measures.

Be Careful When You Smoke in the Woods

IF THE manufacturers of cigars and cigarettes adopt the suggestion of the agricultural department their new bill-board advertising this summer will bear fire-prevention slogans like these in big lettering:

Don't drop FIRE when you smoke in the woods, nor throw it out along the road. Keep the forests GREEN!

DANGER! Matches, pipes, coals, cigar stubs and cigarette ends start many forest fires. Help protect woods, streams, scenery.

BE CAREFUL! Don't start a fire in the woods when you begin or end your smoke! Be sure your match, cigar or pipe is OUT.

DON'T START WHAT YOU CAN'T STOP! Be careful with fire in and near the forest.

FIRE IS DANGEROUS! Be careful when you smoke in the woods. LOOK OUT! When you smoke in woods; don't start a forest fire.

YOUR CO-OPERATION with this company to keep down forest fires is asked. Break your match in two. Knock out your pipe ashes into your hand. Don't drop a burning cigarette.

FOREST FIRES cost millions a year. Don't start one.

DON'T THROW FIRE AWAY in the woods or along the road.



HELP PREVENT FIRES.

Seven of the leading tobacco companies in this country have been asked to give their co-operation in enlisting smokers in a campaign against careless use of fire in all forests. Smokers, statistics show, are annually responsible for a large number of conflagrations in timbered areas, causing immense losses. The letter suggests that the tobacco companies can render an invaluable service in this movement by including in tobacco packages brief printed legends urging smokers to take every precaution to prevent the spread of fire from matches or burning tobacco.

With millions of tourists visiting the national forests and national parks each summer the question of the careless smoker is one of national importance.

Highway to Join Twelve National Parks



TWELVE national parks lie in a rough circle of about 3,500 miles between Denver and the Pacific. Starting toward the north, the visitor comes in turn to Rocky Mountain in Colorado, Yellowstone in Wyoming, Glacier in Montana, Mount Rainier in Washington, Crater Lake in Oregon, Lassen Volcanic, Yosemite, General Grant and Sequoia in California, Grand Canyon in Arizona, Zion in Utah and Mesa Verde in Colorado. Between Mesa Verde and Denver are the Mount Evans region, which is to be added to Rocky Mountain and the Denver municipal mountain parks. These 14 parks are more or less connected by roads of widely differing quality. What is needed and projected is a national park-to-park highway connecting with the Lincoln highway and other transcontinental roads. The

visitors last year to the national parks numbered over 750,000 and more than 80 per cent of this travel was by private automobile.

June 1 A. L. Westgard representing the national park service and the American Automobile association, left Washington by automobile for Denver. From there he started on a "pathfinder" circuit of the national parks named, seeking the best route for the park-to-park highway.

In August he will report at Denver. Then a large party will go under his guidance over his preliminary route and make selection of a permanent route. This party will include Director Stephen T. Mather of the national park service; Gus. Holm of Cody, Wyo., president of the National Park-to-Park Highway association; various officials of the states of Wyoming and Montana, and of organizations interested in the project, and an official staff, including writers and photographers.

The purpose of this trip is threefold: To select a park-to-park route, which is to be improved by state and county organizations pending assistance from the federal government; to secure data for maps and publicity matter and to promote travel by the people to the national parks.

The Lowly Corncob and Its \$20 Furfural

PROBABLY you think of a corncob as a handy thing to eat green corn from and the thing from which the good old "Missouri meerschaum" is made. Stop, look, read! Henceforth you must know the lonely corncob as the source of furfural and half a dozen other things, but especially furfural. The chemists of the agricultural department have discovered that the corncob is a regular catch-all of good things.

Up to this time furfural has been so rare that it has sold as high as \$20 a pound. Every ton of corn cobs will yield about thirty pounds of furfural as a by-product, and the chemists estimate that it can be manufactured in this way for less than 20 cents a pound. What it will sell for is another story.

Furfural is what the chemists call a basic intermediary in dyes. That means that you may make about as many kinds of dye out of furfural as a good cook can make good things to eat out of flour. They have shown at least a dozen different shades of cloth dyed with furfural. It is highly useful, too, in the manufacture of paints and lacquers and in the making of bakelite, the substance used in pipe stems and other articles. In addition to all that, fur-



fural is such an excellent insecticide that it has been used to a considerable extent for that purpose, even though the price was \$20 a pound.

About a bushel of cobs is produced for every bushel of shell corn and they have been almost a complete waste. Commercial plants are now being equipped to manufacture half a dozen products from them. One of these products is an adhesive of exceptionally high quality—said to be better for a number of important uses than any adhesive previously known. Another is cellulose, suitable for use in the manufacture of dynamite and various other things. Paper has been made using a part of the corn cob product as filler. Another product is acetate of lime, from which acetic acid is made.

GHOST WITNESS IN COURT TRIAL

Dead Woman Tells of Procuring Iron With Which Husband Killed Her.

LIKE STORY OF OLDEN TIMES

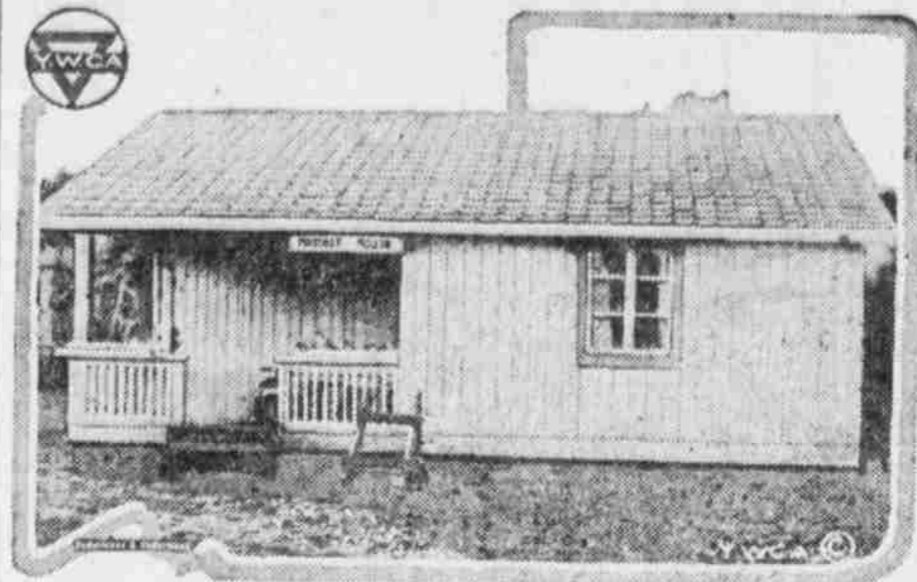
Supernatural Comes Again to Play Recognized Part in Affairs of Men in Country Which Calls Itself Civilized.

Washington, D. C.—A man is accused of beating his wife to death, and is brought before a high tribunal for trial. Judge and jurors and audience sit and listen in respectful silence while the ghost of the dead woman testifies that she herself procured the iron bar with which she was killed, that she had intended to kill her husband with it, and that he had great provocation to kill her.

This sounds like a story of olden times. It might have happened in any of the great ages of superstition when men believed in the supernatural even more than they did in the natural.

Civilization is supposed to have freed man from these ancient fears, but it

For Pilgrims to Belleau Wood



This is the Y. W. C. A. rest house maintained at Belleau Wood, France, for the benefit of pilgrims to that scene of one of the great exploits of American soldiers in the war. It is at the edge of the American cemetery.

has not done so. The fear is still latent in us, waiting for a chance to express itself. For example, the incident related above happened, not in the middle ages or in a fairy tale, but in the Supreme court of the District of Columbia a few days ago. The dead woman's mother testified that she had gone to several mediums, had conversed with the ghost of her daughter and had so gotten the daughter's story of what happened. Still more

astonishing, she testified that an assistant United States attorney had advised her to consult mediums. When you take this in connection with the fact that the Supreme court evidently listened to the ghost conversation as part of the testimony, you cannot blink at the conclusion that a ghost has been admitted to a court of justice in the United States. The supernatural has come again to play a formal and recognized part in the affairs of men in a country which calls itself civilized.

Spiritualism Involved.

Of course, the whole question of spiritualism is here involved. There are many intelligent and sincere people who believe that the existence of ghosts who can communicate with us has been proved.

Out in the West there is a certain placer deposit of gold which has been the grave of many fortunes. One man after another has tried to get this gold, and all have failed. Finally, along came an inventor with a most ingenious and expensive plan for getting the gold. He had absolute faith in it. It appeared that he was in communication with the ghost of his dead sister, and that she had imparted this plan to him, and had told him it was sure to succeed. He spent every cent he owned and could borrow on the plan and lost it all. The ghost was wrong.

Here is another example of a meddlesome ghost who sought to make trouble. A young and attractive widow was invited by an older woman who lived in the same boarding house to join her in some out-of-town excursion to the land of the dead. They immediately got into communication with the spirit of the young woman's dead husband. He proceeded to criticize her goings and comings at great length. He objected to the man she went with. He told her that such-and-such a man was immoral, that another ate cocaine, that a third had a wife living in Australia. He advised her to give up all frivolities and stay at home nights.

Widow Is Troubled.

The young widow was considerably troubled at first. But she had strong common sense. She reflected that even if spiritualism was a true revelation, there were fake mediums, and her elderly friend might be one of them. She also reflected that her husband in life had been a jealous fellow, inclined to be about all possible rivals, and she saw no reason to believe that death had reformed him. She was able to prove that some of the messages which had been sent her from "The Beyond" were not in accord with the facts.

When the next out-of-town session came off, there was a struggle. Hubby tried to get in some more advice, but the young widow had strong hands. Instead of hubby, it was the defunct aunt of her elderly friend who got the floor. This departed lady informed the elderly friend that she was in danger of serious financial reverses, that she was apt to die a violent death, probably by falling down stairs, that the rubber company in which she had bought three shares of stock was a swindle, and that if she did not drink less tea she would get cirrhosis of the liver. All of this threw the good woman into a sweat of apprehension; the out-of-town readings were discontinued, and the dead husband lost his only means of communication with the world of the living, to the great relief of his widow.—Frederic J. Haskin in Chicago News.

Give Sightless Equal Chance

Placed on Same Footing as Seeing as Result of Doctor Wheeler's Observations.

NO LONGER AN EXPERIMENT

Blind Are Taught to Wind Electric Coils—Effect of Being Self-Supporting Keeps Them Healthy and in Good Spirits.

New York.—So many of the war-blinded have found work in the electrical manufacturing plant a means of supporting themselves, rendering them independent of any charity or philanthropic assistance, that special attention is being directed to the work of Dr. Icheyur Skaats Wheeler, who made possible this new field of gainful occupation for the sightless.

There is nothing new in the endeavor to enable the blind to work or even in the effort made to find a ready market for their product, but in the Crocker-Wheeler company's factory the unending work on an exact par with the seeing, their "goods," therefore, being placed in the open market.

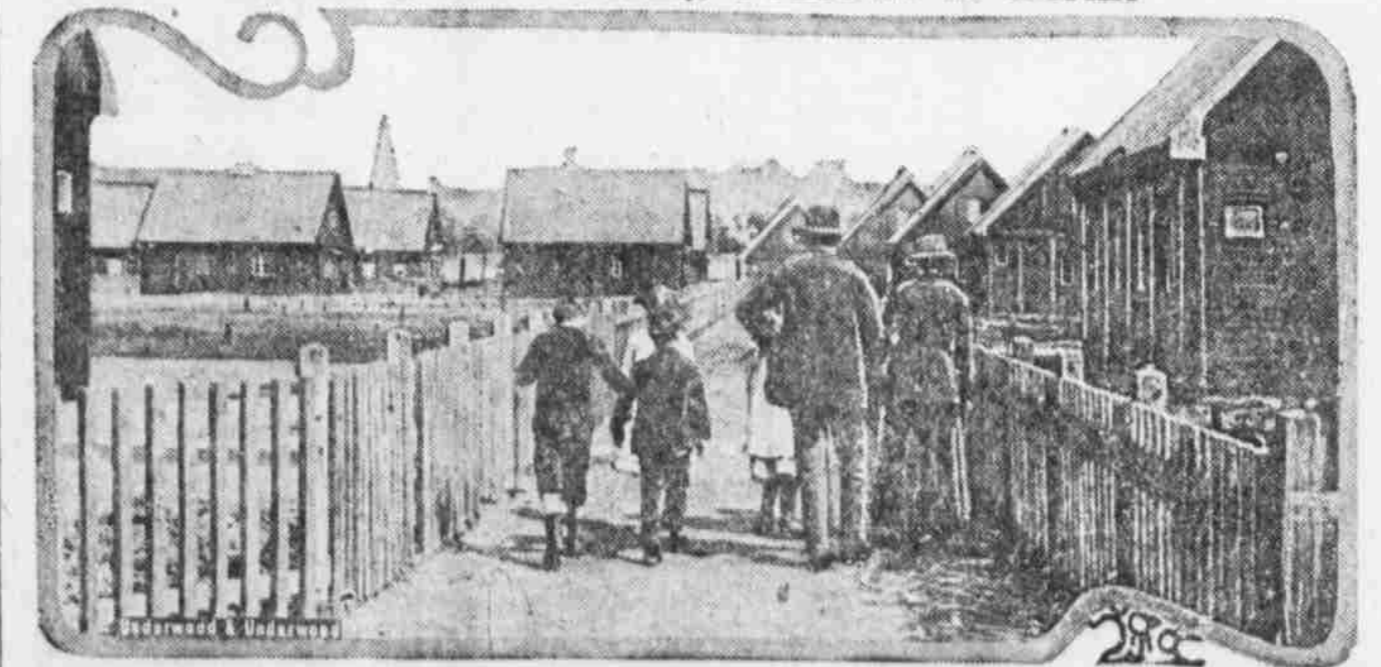
Doctor Wheeler's interest in the problem of the blind, starting some years ago, became intensified when he brought their numbers, both here and abroad, to a highly increased total. In going through the various departments of the company's electrical manufacturing plant at Amperg, N. J., of which he is president, he noted the fact that girls skilled in winding wire coils performed their work without watching the movements of their hands, as a touch typist or a piano player ignores her fingers. The coil-winding girls chatted and laughed among themselves as they worked, and their work was satisfactory. Doctor Wheeler then blindfolded himself and attempted to wind a coil. He proved to his own satisfaction that here was work which, with little practice, the sightless could do on a par with normal workers.

Proves a Success.

The Double Duty Finger Guild was the direct result. That is the name given to the department, employing only men and women without sight. This department has been in successful operation for three years in the Crocker-Wheeler factory, and it has ceased to be considered an experiment or even an innovation.

At first special instructors were engaged and a small group of blind were set to work at winding the wire coils.

Meeting the Housing Problem in Berlin



Meeting the housing problem in Berlin by the Berlin authorities to meet the shortage.

Horticultural Facts

UPS AND DOWNS IN PEACHES

Prospective Crop Estimated to Be About 77 Per Cent of Normal—Acreage Decreased.

It is said that the law of compensation works both ways—if the rich man gets his lee in the summer, the poor man gets his share in the winter. Averages of peach production appear to follow the same rule, according to the estimates just published by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture.

Barring the possibility of further disaster, the commercial peach orchards of Georgia and North and South Carolina will produce fairly heavy crops. California is scheduled for a bumper crop, and several other states will not be far below their 1919 average in ear lot shipments of peaches, but these good prospects are more than offset by the frost damage inflicted upon the orchards in other states. Texas has been badly hurt, and so, also, have the Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Tennessee orchards. The New England crop is reported ruined, and Washington, Utah, and Idaho report severe winter killing. To some extent the prospective



Distributing Peaches By Machinery.

crop is still further diminished by the decrease in acreage devoted to commercial peach orchards.

Altogether the bureau of crop estimates figures the conditions on April 1, 1920, to be about 77 per cent of normal. There is a slight decrease from this figure during the growing season, usually about 10 per cent, which will presumably reduce this early estimate to 67 per cent when the crop is harvested and the final count taken. Last year the April estimate was given as 84 per cent, and the decrease was 9 per cent during the growing season. In terms of bushels the crop last year figured 23,240,000 bushels of fruit. Allowing for the normal 50 per cent decrease in 1920, the crop this fall will be short of last year's production by about 3,000,000 bushels, giving a total of 23,467,000 bushels for the coming harvest.

REMOVE ALL VARIETY TAGS

If Wire Is Permitted to Remain It Slowly Girdles Tree, Eventually Causing Death.

In setting out young fruit trees the variety tag is often left tied to the tree so that the tree may be identified by its variety name in later years. This, however, generally causes more trouble and injury to the tree than the knowledge in knowing what particular variety the tree represents. Frequently a young tree two or three years old will be seen with the wire and tag around the main limb, but the wire imbedded in the growth of the tree to such an extent that when it is removed the top of the tree may die or if the wire is left on the tree it is simply a slow girdling process until the entire top of the tree is dead.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES

Berries are fruits that most people relish. This is especially true of strawberries.

The best soil for apple trees is a medium-heavy clay loam soil and well drained. A good many soils are not suitable for an apple orchard.

Peach trees can be pruned to increase vigor in the late fall as soon as most of the leaves are loose upon the twigs and beginning to fall freely.

Those who have given thought to peach growing know that as soon as the fertility of the soil begins to fail the crop is uncertain and of poor quality.

Prune grape vines enough to give plenty of room for each vine so that light and air may get in around them. Most varieties are inclined to produce too much wood.